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Convention on the
Rights of the Child

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MEETING OF STATES PARTIES
Twelfth Meeting
New York, 16 December 2008
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

ELECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 43 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, OF NINE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, TO REPLACE THOSE WHOSE TERMS ARE DUE TO EXPIRE ON 28 FEBRUARY 2009

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. In conformity with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Twelfth Meeting of the States parties to the Convention will be convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters on Tuesday, 16 December 2008.

2. The curricula vitae of 20 candidates received by 22 August 2008 are reproduced in document CRC/SP/40.

3. The present document contains the biographical data of two further candidates, received after 22 August 2008.

Sharon Esther Geerlings -Headley (Suriname)

Date and place of birth: 21 August 1967, Paramaribo, Suriname

Working languages: English

Current position/function:

- Professor of Law/ Division Private Law University of Suriname (1997-ongoing)
- Lecturing Youth and Family Law and Civil Law of Procedure
- Chair of the University Child rights Institute (2001-2007)
- Director of NGO Family and Law (March 2007- ongoing).

Main professional activities:

Sharon Geerlings-Headley is a lawyer specialized in youth and family law. She is a Law professor at the University of Suriname teaching Youth and Family Law and Civil law of procedure where she is also a PHD candidate. She started her professional career as a legal officer at the Bureau at Family law affairs in 1992 where she was responsible for leading cases regarding children (child protection measures, adoption, alimony etc).She was confronted on a daily basis with legal and judicial aspects as they relate to children. The witnessing of the effects on children has generated a keen interest in youth law in her, which contributed to her career focus on family and youth law. Her main areas of interest are the legal position of the child in judicial affairs and education .She is strongly advocating for the protection of children and she has drafted several legislative products and standards for children in Suriname She has also regularly carried out research into the situation of children in Suriname and the Caribbean such as the *Juvenile Justice research, Legislation and standards for ECD and Situation analysis of Children* .She has also been privileged over the past few years to contribute to the development of legal and policy frameworks and plans to protect and promote the rights of children on the national level. Since 1999, she has drafted the national policy plan on youth and was also actively involved in the organization of the election of the first ever Youth Council in Suriname. She is founder and first Chair of the University Child rights institute of the Faculty of Social Sciences..

Educational background:

- Doctoral Law - Anton de Kom University of Suriname (March 1996)
- Design and management of Social Policies and Programmes, (post-academic) Washington DC, June 2003
- July 2004 – Post-academic training: *Children, Youth and Development.* Institute of Social Studies, ISS, The Hague, Netherlands
- October 2006 - New developments in Family Law I (*Actualities Family Law*)
- May 2007 - New developments in Family Law II :(*Actualities Family Law).*

Training

- Alert and Counselling by sexual child abuse *(Signalering en counseling bij seksuele Kindermishandeling*), Paramaribo (1994)
- Policy development (*Cursus in Beleidsontwikkeling*), Paramaribo (1999)
- Writing scientific papers *(opstellen van wetenschappelijke documenten* (2001))
- Presenting (2001)

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

- 1998-2000 – Member of the National Committee on the Rights of the Child (Steering committee on youth)
- October 2002-2006 – Deputy member of the Committee's gender legislation
- March –August 2003 - Coordinator and trainer of the Certificate course "The child in Suriname and its Rights" , Anton de Kom University of Suriname
- August -October 2005 - Coordinator and trainer of the diploma programme "Early childhood Education", Anton de Kom University of Suriname
- October 2006 - Coordinator and trainer of the diploma programme "New developments in family law module I" by Prof. Dr. J. De Boer, Anton de Kom University of Suriname.
- April 2007 - Training provided for the personnel of the Ministry of Justice: Review of the Surinamese legislation with international legislation in the field of women and children
- June 2007 - Coordinator of the training "New developments in family law module II" by Prof. Dr. J. De Boer, Anton de Kom University of Suriname
- Contributed to the following booklets:

  Juvenile Justice in Suriname, October 2001

  The Rights of the Child, Questions and Answers, November 2002.

List of most recent publications in the field:

- Evaluation of the regulations regarding the position of the minor in civil (law) suit. (*Evaluatie van de regels betreffende de positie van de minderjarige in het burgerlijk geding)* (1996)
- Memorandum Framework youth policy (*het jeugdbeleid*), October 1998
- Chapter of the National Children's Policy dealing with protection of children (1999)
- Juvenile Justice in Suriname (research paper) part of a regional UNICEF research (March 2000)
- National Youth Policy; presented to the President of the Republic of Suriname on 10 May 2000 (in co-authorship)
- Is our family law all right? Critical articles written by S. Headley on Surinamese Family law) *("Is ons familierecht O.K.? Kritische artikels betreffende het Surinaams familierecht*) (August 2000)

- "Situation analysis on children and policy plan for The Ministry of Social Affairs", August 2001 (in co-authorship)
- Early Childhood Education Legislation for the CCDC, school of continuing studies, UWI Jamaica (standards and legislation) (May 2003)
- Amendment of Law and regulations with respect to the introduction of the 10-year basic education cycle- IDB, (research paper) (April 2004)
- An elderly friendly legislation?: (naar een bejaarden-vriendelijke wetgeving: *onderzoeksrapport naar mogelijkheden ter verbetering van de opvang, zorg en begeleiding van bejaarden in instellingen)* (February 2005)
- Policy Plan children 2008-2012: Based on the 2000 and 2007 recommendations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child for Suriname.

Samira Moosa (Oman)

Date and place of birth: 28 October 1959. Doha, Qatar.

Working languages: Arabic/ English

Current position/ function:

Member of State Council of Oman, Legal Committee. Head of Department of Early Childhood Education, Sultan Qaboos University; Director of the Child Development Centre, SQU, (supervise Student- Teacher Training; teaching and research responsibilities, plan curriculum, recruit faculty ; review programmes and conduct evaluations; plan parent workshops, oversee development of educational materials).

Main professional activities:

- Selected by the Association for Childhood Education International as a representative of the Arab World to participate in the drafting of the "International Guidelines for Education and Care of Young Children" in July 1999 in Zurich, Switzerland.
- Translated the outcome document of the International Symposium on Early Childhood Education and Care for the 21st Century from English to Arabic 2001. The Arabic version is now available on the website: www.ecec21.org
- Established the Department of Early Childhood Education in SQU, developed a four-year programme and a two-year diploma programme based on international standards. Established a Child Development Centre on Campus.

Educational background:

PhD, University of Southern California, 1994. Major: Early Childhood Education. Minor: Family Counselling.

MA, California State University, 1985. Major: ECE.

BA, University of California, 1982. Major, Home Economics

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:

Member of the National Committee for Child Rights and Chair of the Subcommittee on Research. Participated in the formulation and review process of the initial report of Oman on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and a member of the committee which defended the report at the United Nations in Geneva, 2001. Initiated the idea of establishing the first Children's Public Library in Oman and current Chair of the board. Prepared manuals on parenting issues and conducted workshops on the subject. Also conducted workshops on children's rights, play, acculturation and the role of family, school and community. Started a mother and child care course for male students at university level. Chair of the committee for formulating the Omani Children's Law.

List of most recent publications in the field:

(With M. Alshishtawi , "Assessment of Child Rights Awareness among Omani Children, Parents and Teachers", .UNICEF. (in press)

(With J., Hoot, and T. Szecsi), ."What Teachers of Young Children Should know About Islam" *Early Childhood Education Journal*, vol. 31, No.2, 2003.